

The Hong Kong Daily News

No. 3305 五零一千八百第

日四十六年八月四日

HONGKONG MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1881.

一月四日

號四月八英華

Price \$2 per Month

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

August 1. *CHINCHIN*, British steamer, 1,504 A. C. C. S. N. Co.

August 1. *LINNET*, British gunboat, Commander G. M. Hill, received 20th July.

August 1. *DORIS*, German steamer, 816 W. Zetrahn, Hamburg, and Singapore, 25th July. General—SIEGMUND & Co.

August 2. *VICTORIA*, British steamer, 1,531 J. B. Sheld, Saigon 20th July. General—SIEGMUND & Co.

August 2. *HAIKONG*, British steamer, 277 F. D. Gough, Tamsui 29th July, and Amoy 31st. General—DOUGLAS LAPIERRE & Co.

August 2. *PENING*, British steamer, 954, Hoveston, Canton, and August 2. General—SIEGMUND & Co.

August 2. *NUNNED*, British steamer, 731 Wm. Poole, Shanghai 30th July. General—SIEGMUND & Co.

August 2. *DOUGLAS*, British steamer, 982, Saun Ashton, Foochow 10th July, Amoy 31st, and Swatow 2nd August. General—DOUGLAS LAPIERRE & Co.

August 2. *ANTON*, French corvette, M. Durat, from Tonkin.

August 3. *ANTON*, German steamer, 396, Shandor, Hollow 2nd August, General—WILLER & Co.

August 3. *SALOME*, French steamer, 323, Th. Leriche, Haiphong 1st August, General—A. R. MACEY.

August 3. *JAPAN*, British steamer, 1,605, T. S. Gordon, Calcutta 10th July, Penang 25th, and Singapore 27th. Opium and General—DAVID SASSOON, Sons & Co.

August 3. *MONTAHL*, French steamer, 1,278, Benois, Yokohama 22nd July. Mails and General—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE

20 AUGUST

Changchun, British str. for Foochow.

Khris, British str. for Bombay.

Altevare, British str. for Yokohama.

Trienph, German str. for Saigon.

Abulanta German str. for Canton.

Madras, British str. for Saigon.

Bentley, British str. for Swatow.

Hegel & Otto, Norwegian str. for Tientsin.

Meade, British str. for Singapore.

Picard, German str. for Swatow.

Pekin, British str. for Shanghai.

Cassandra, German str. for Chefoo.

DEPARTURES.

July 31. *HAIKONG*, British str. for Shanghai.

August 2. *ASHLEY*, British str. for Amoy.

August 2. *CLYDE*, British str. for Shanghai.

August 2. *ISLAND*, British str. for Manila.

August 2. *ASIAN*, Chinese gunboat, for a cruise.

August 2. *SOMOON*, Spanish str. for Manila.

August 2. *KINAI*, British str. for Boulogne.

August 2. *MALCOLM*, British str. for London.

August 2. *THOMAS*, British str. for Yokohama.

August 2. *ZAFIR*, British str. for Manila.

August 2. *LINNET*, British g-boat, for Swatow.

August 3. *GOLDEN CASTER*, British steamer, for Yokohama.

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August 3. *SOMOON</i*

NOTICE.
A. SWANSON, A. N. & CO.
FARMERS AND DISPENSERS
CHEMISTS.
By Appointment to His Excellency the
G. S. VENOR and His Royal Highness the
DUKE OF EDINBURGH.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS
PERFUMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIERS,
AND
MANUFACTURERS OF
SHIPS MEDICINE CHEST'S REPAIRED
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIES.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Name A. S. Watson and Co., or
HONG-KONG DISPENSARY. [23]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Communications on historical matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on biography to "The Mayor," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communication addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be addressed to "The Editor," on the day of publication.

Attest that hereby is given my name.

BIRTH.—On the 2nd instant, at 1 p.m., at No. 16, Wyndham Street, the wife of E. B. GRADY, of a son [Mall]

The Daily Press.

HONG-KONG, AUGUST 4TH, 1884.

At the present moment, when public attention is being directed to Hainan as likely to become a temporary French dependency, it may be interesting to note some facts concerning it embodied in the report on the trade of Kiung-chow for the year 1883 by Mr. CONSUL JORDAN, received by the last English mail. The value of the trade of Hainan shows a steady progress, in which both imports and exports share. Opium constitutes 41 per cent. of the value of the imports, and cotton goods form the second item on the list. Metals, more especially old iron, show an improvement, and kerosene oil is gaining steadily in favour with the natives; every respectable temple now boasts of its gaudy Canton chandelier, though care is taken that the native oil is burned in the immediate presence of the presiding deities. A reaction has, however, set in against foreign matches, formerly largely imported, and recourse is being had to the old appliances. This, Mr. JORDAN says, is due to Japanese matches having for a time ousted the Swedes, with the result that, being an inferior article, the natives got disgusted with them and returned to the primitive flint. It seems likely that the opium import will be affected by the Yunnan drug, small quantities of which are now, it is said, smuggled over from the mainland. Hainan, and its cheapness, the Consuls think, may cause it to find favour with a people as poor as the Hainanese, who are also much addicted to smoking the drug, often as an antidote to the aches and fever engendered by the hot moist climate.

The exact time shows a satisfactory increase, especially in the staple produce sugar, the quantity of which in 1883 was 142,346 piculs, as compared with 104,076 piculs in 1882. The production, however, might be much extended, we gather, if the growers could be induced to alter its preparation so as to render it more suitable for the foreign market, and it is said a little instruction by a competent expert might make vast improvement in this respect. There was last year an astonishing increase, Mr. JORDAN tells us, in the number of pigs, eggs, and poultry exported; and a few bullocks were also, for the first time, shipped from Hainan. This trade was at the commencement opposed by the Prefect on the ground that all the cattle were required for work in the fields, but the Taotai promptly interfered and sanctioned the export. The export of wild raw silk and gossamer showed a falling off compared with previous years. Some silverware was exported for the first time last year. Altogether, though the trade of Hainan shows a steady increase on the whole, it is very clear that by judicious fostering, it could be enormously increased.

We observe from French paper that the great barrier to the development of trade is the want of a good harbour. Bothow, the port of Kiung-chow, is the only port in the island open to trade, but the approaches are, notoriously bad. Referring to this defect, Mr. JORDAN says:—"Unless something is done soon to improve the water approach to Bothow, there is a strong likelihood that in a few years the entrance to the port will be completely blocked. To one who daily witnesses the difficulties with which cargo boats have to contend in threading their way up the shallow tidal creek which leads to the town, it seems almost a marvel that trade continues to live under such conditions. The 'Soul' has extended about 1,000 yards since 1869, and at the same rate of progress will soon reach the entrance to the creek. It is said that the exercise of a little engineering skill might divert a much larger volume of water into the branch of the river which flows past Bothow, and so scour the channel as to keep it open for the passage of boats at all states of the tide. Failing the application of some remedy, the possibility of securing a better port may some day require practical consideration, and unless Hainan is opened as a subsidiary port, the choice would seem to lie between Hsien-p'u, the port of Tamsow, and P'u-chien, a harbour about 15 miles east of this. The former is a good harbour but is not a very important centre of trade, while there is a bar at the entrance of the latter place?" Nor has anything been done to light the dangerous and tortuous Hainan Straits, though the dues paid by foreign vessels amount to a considerable sum every year. Mr. JORDAN is of opinion that so long as the island treasury receives the greater portion of its revenue for the enrichment of the Imperial High-queer, "there is little hope of local improvement, or of such

development of the resources of the island as would raise the standard of comfort among its people and open up a market for the products of Western nations." This is only too true, and the fact would reconcile other powers to the seizure of the island by the French, who may be expected at least to open a better port, the Hainan Straits, and develop the mineral and other resources of the country.

The French gunboat *Dixie*, Captain Ferrat, arrived here yesterday from Tonquin.

To-day, being a Bank holiday, will be observed as a holiday by the Government Departments.

The French cruiser *Savane* left here yesterday for Fochow.

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EXTRACTS:

MARJORIE'S KISSES.—
Marjorie laughs and chirps on my knee,
And I kiss her, and she kisses me.
I kiss her, but I don't much care,
Because, although she is charming and fair,
Marjorie's not three.

But there will come a time, I ween,
When, if I tell her of this little scene,
She will smile and prettily blush, and then
I shall long to kiss her again.

—When Marjorie's seventeen.

WALTER LEARNED, in *Century*.

MARRIAGE OF THE MIDGETS.

An interesting marriage ceremony was performed on the 28th May at Manchester, the bride being Miller Edwards, and the bridegroom Francis J. Ulpta (known as General Mite), who claims to be the smallest people in the world, and gives recreations as the American Midgets. Francis John Ulpta, otherwise General Mite, the littlest bridegroom, is 19 years old, 23 inches high, and nine pounds in weight. His bride, Miss Miller Edwards, is 17, one and a half inches shorter than her partner, and weighs seven pounds. They may well be called the smallest people in the world. Both are of American nationality, having been in England for several years, and have appeared before the Queen and other members of the Royal family on more than one occasion. Their stay at the St. James's Hotel in Manchester has been a prolonged one, and they have attracted many thousands of visitors. They are the more interesting because, unlike most of the abnormally small people whom the public have been accustomed to see at exhibitions, they are not in any sense or degree deformed. Little as they are, they are symmetrically proportioned, and in features graceful and intelligent. The little bride, on her 16th birthday on the 1st September last, at birth, weighed only 1 lb. She made rapid progress, however, and developed in a space of time all that she was seven years old, when, without any apparent cause, she ceased to grow. Medical men consulted on her account failed to assign the cause of this sudden arrest of development. Her brother and sister, all younger than herself, are of ordinary stature, healthy and sound. She was born in Merton. General Mite's baptismal name is the State of New York, and having been born on the 6th October, 1864, he is now just nineteen. Little big bride, he is the eldest of the family, and his younger brothers and sisters are all of ordinary stature. His parents are now fully grown, and his father is only a inch short of six feet. The General's weight is about a half a pound, and a half, and he is too weak to grow at the age of two years. Both the little folks enjoy good health and spirits. They sleep two hours out of the twenty-four, but if they then feel fit, resume their exercises. They have a good deal of fun, they are exceedingly active while awake. It

is one of the main difficulties of their management, indeed, to get them to take rest during the day. It is said that at meals their portion is one-third of one-fourth of what is needed by a young child at a meal. The marriage ceremony fell into two parts—one semi-private and the other public. The first took place at the office of the Superintendent Registrar for the Chorlton Union, where the civil contract was entered into, and the other the religious ceremony at St. James's Hall. The Midgets' former home was in the Grand Hotel, and General Ulpta changed his abode to the Denmark Hotel, Greenlawn, where the limits of the Union Union, which the bride stayed behind. The couple should have made their appearance at the Registrar's office at eleven, according to arrangement, but it was not twelve when the bride was seen about. The bride and bridegroom, both well wrapped up, were carried into the room by their friends. Placed on the ground, they stood a trifle higher than the known of their surroundings. The bride was dressed in dark crimson velvet, edged with cream lace, and wore a white feather and trimmings. Her light-grey gloves, with the regulation signatures, were a minute marvel. The little man, who still preserved her composure, and deliberately accepted a pretty bouquet with which the superintendent registrar's daughter (Miss Mary Bentrie Edgill) presented her. The bride was not a large one, but the bridegroom was before long obliged to relinquish it through fatigue. The bridegroom was very spruce and smart, in light clothes and yellow kid gloves, posed by quite a statesmanlike way, and made the most of his 22s. His best man was Colonel Ulpta, his German wife, who bovites a stature of 5ft. 6in. It was a curious scene. Something of the ludicrous side of the business appeared to strike the bridegroom, while the pair stood awaiting the officiating registrar, for he was seen with uncontrollable laughter and obliged to bury his face in his hat. The district registrar (Mr. Joseph O'Gorman) having noticed the bride and bridegroom, were placed on the stage, their heads being a trifle above the tops of the ornamental plants. The short ceremony was soon gone through. Neither of the Midgets knew of any lawful impediment, why they should not be joined in the bonds of matrimony, and therupon the Registrar asked the bridegroom whether he had a ring. General Mite immediately produced a blue velvet nail-like case, one of which he presently brought a microscopic ring, and having deftly shaped it to the bride's finger, he and his bride called upon those present to witness that they had been lawfully wedded. The couple were taken to another room to make the requisite signatures in the register, returning for a minute later to receive congratulations. When these were over, the pair were carried away, their carriage and amid the shouts of a large crowd gathered about the door of the Union Office, drove off to the Grand Hotel for brief fest. Between one and two o'clock the second part of the marriage ceremony was performed. This took place in the theatre of St. James's Hall, the Rev. Jas. Mackie, of the Scotch National Church in Rutledge Road, officiating and following the forms of the Presbyterian Church. The public, who admitted to this part of the proceeding, and the theatre was nearly full. The stage was handsomely decorated with plants and flowers. The bridegroom was exhibited under a glass case. At one point was the band of the Third Dragon Guards, who, as the newly-wedded couple amateur, played "Wedding March." The Midgets were greeted by the audience with a round of applause. They were placed on a table in the front of the stage, and the minister, who presented an extreme judicial contrast to them, took up his position by their side. The bride and bridegroom were now in very fine attire. The dress of the bride was of cream satin with a long train, and she wore a sprightly flowing veil. There was abundance of flowers in her hair, her necklace was a string of pearls, and she carried a beautiful bouquet. The bridegroom was in blue

uniform, with gold epaulettes and facings. He had an eye-glass, too, with a gold-thread, and a sword, with a gilt scabbard. The sword, however, got in his way, and after bearing its uncomfortable dangling for a time, the General at length discarded it, to the evident relief of the bride. Colonel Ulpta was again "best man." The bridegroom was Miss Thornton, of Oswald, and Miss Alice Flynn, a younger sister of the bridegroom, two little girls, each with pretty bouquets, who towered above the wedded pair. The Rev. Mr. Mackie performed the ceremony in an impressive manner, and the Midgets listened and responded with all proper gravity. In a brief address which he gave, the minister said the circumstances were singular, and the occasion unique, but it was not wholly without precedent. The action, however, was right, religious, and becoming, for their dear brother and sister who were such remarkable specimens of the wonderful works of God had bodies as, if not more, faultily and wonderfully made than any of them, souls as curiously created in the image of God as any of them, and for them, as for those present, to do the Saviour died. Prayer having been offered, the General and his wife went among the visitors and received their congratulations. The band afterwards contributed some music, and during an interval Mr. Ernest Waller delivered an address on the history of the newly-married couple. He narrated the visitors that the marriage was quite a love. They had an overwhelming affection for each other, and it was felt that they could not be separated. It was after some deliberation, resolved that the present should be allowed to stand, and the couple should be allowed to take up their abode in the world, and to go to their happy home.

—When Marjorie's seventeen.

WALTER LEARNED, in *Century*.

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